

# **CROWN BUTTE TIMBER SALE**

June 19, 2006 Land Board

## **LOCATION OF SALE:**

- Helena Unit (CLO) – Approximately 6 Miles southwest of Sluice Box State Park near Belt Montana
- Cascade County – Section 16, T16N, R6E

## **SALE VOLUME & ESTIMATED VALUE:**

- The estimated sale volume is 9,603 tons (1,425 MBF) with an estimated minimum bid value of \$158,453.00.
- In addition to the estimated stumpage value, a fee of \$1.24/ton for Forest Improvement will be charged for all merchantable sawlog timber harvested.
- 100% Common Schools Trust
- 6.74 tons/MBF is the conversion factor.

## **SALE & HARVEST TREATMENTS:**

- Commercial sale area contains one unit totaling 165 acres.
- This sale also requires pre-commercial mechanical thinning of 43 acres of 4 seedling/sapling stands adjacent to the harvest unit.
- Even-aged silvicultural methods such as intermediate thinning, seed-tree cut, and overstory removal would be employed.
- No old growth would be harvested.

## **HARVEST SYSTEMS:**

- 100% tractor

## **ROAD CONSTRUCTION:**

- The final segment of access to this sale would be across private property from an existing road. This access is a trail suitable for skidder and forwarder use but it would not be suitable for use by log trucks. The landowner does not want a road to be constructed. The trail crosses 1.76 miles of private property before reaching Trust lands. The trail would connect into 1.54 miles of existing trail on Trust lands. All trails would be constructed or upgraded to meet current BMP's.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:**

- Public scoping began in January 2006 with the mailing of the Initial Proposal to adjacent landowners, organizations, and interested parties. Legal notices were published in the Great Falls Tribune in January and February of 2006. Concerns brought forward through the public scoping process have been addressed in the Environmental Assessment Checklist.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS, ISSUES AND MITIGATIONS:**

- **Big Game** - Montana FWP asked for consideration in maintaining transition areas for big game species moving to and from summer/wintering ground, and that linkage between remaining stands of timber be available for security cover. The proposed harvest prescription and sale design would not adversely impact

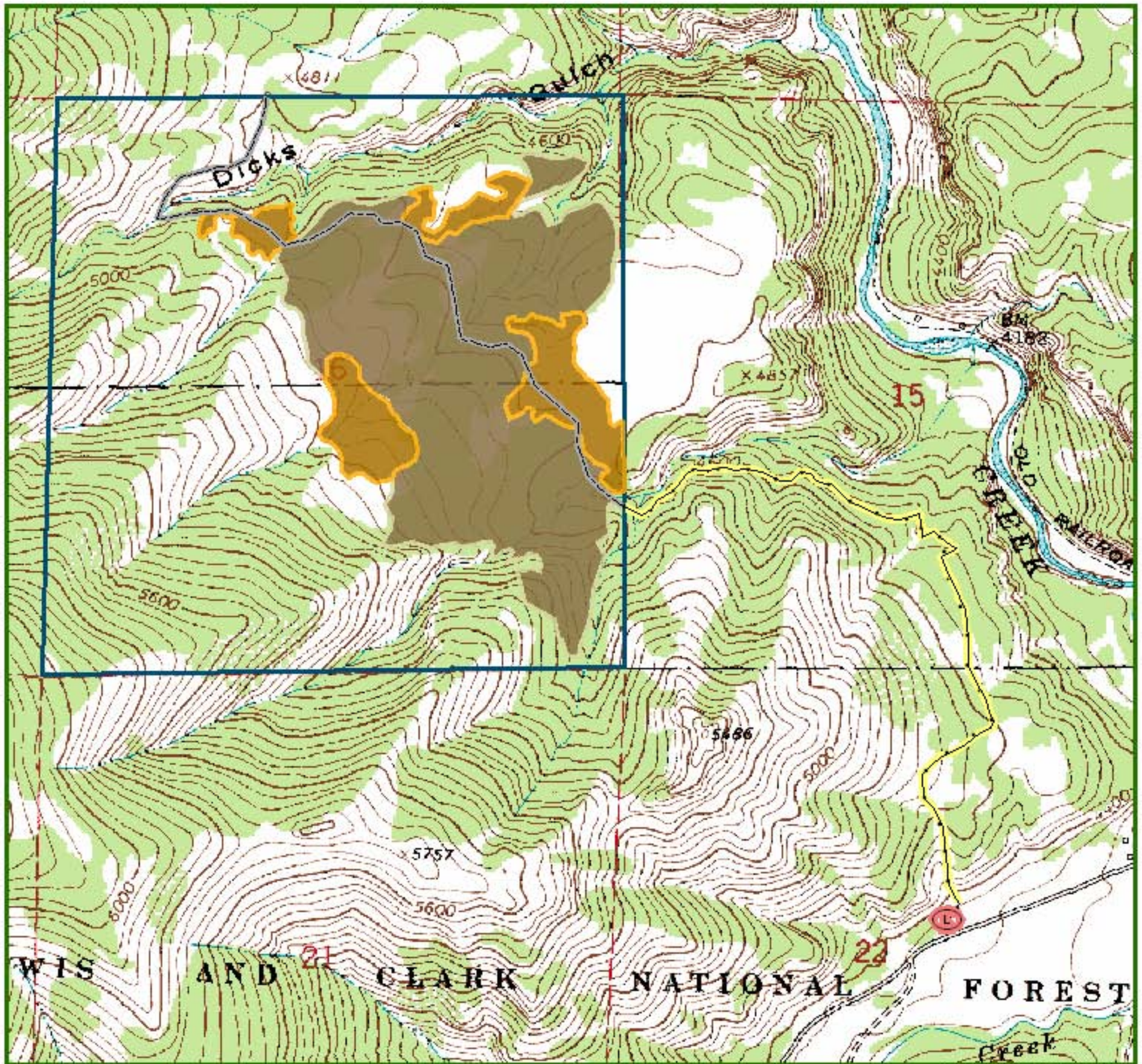
transition areas and available security cover due to the amount of advanced regeneration and overstory trees that would remain after harvest.

**The Director recommends the Land Board direct the Department to sell the Crown Butte Timber Sale.**



# CROWN BUTTE Timber Sale

Section 16, Township 16 North, Range 6 East



Mapped By: SHawn P. Morgan

## Timber Harvest / Pre-Commercial Thin Map

Department of Natural Resources  
and Conservation,  
Helena Unit



1 inch equals 1,320.00 feet

820 410 0 820 1,640 2,460 3,280  
Feet

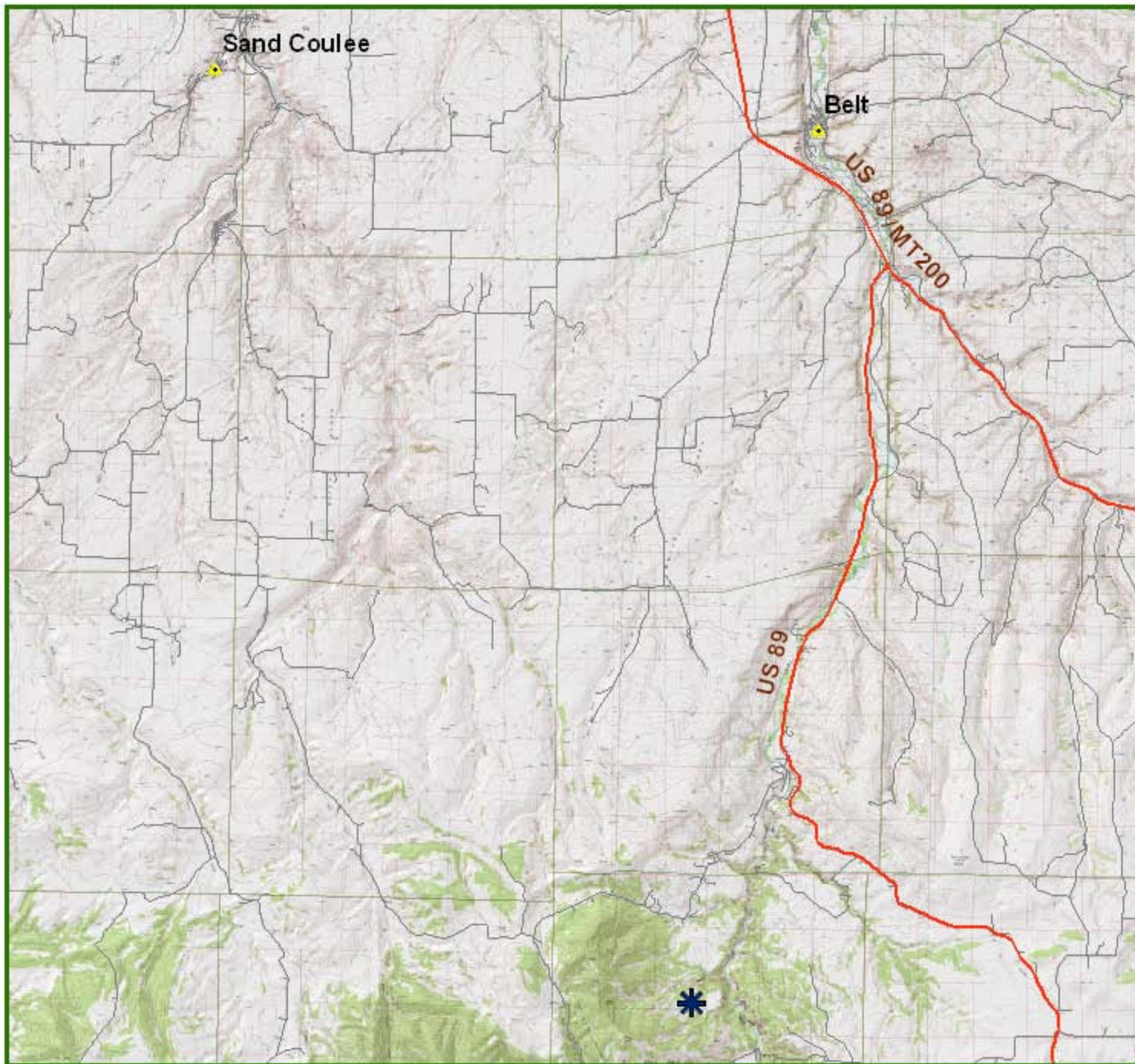
### LEGEND

- Landing Area
- Forward Trail / Private - 1.76 Miles
- Existing Trail / State - 1.54 Miles
- Crown Butte Project Area
- Prescription
  - Commercial Timber Harvest - 165 acres
  - Pre-Commercial Harvest - 43 acres
  - State Ownership



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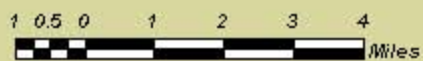


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## Timber Sale Vicinity Map

Department of Natural Resources  
and Conservation,

Central Land Office,  
Helena Unit



### LEGEND

-  Sale Location
-  City / Town
-  Highway